

sion. Within each section the discussion cannot follow a consistent direction since one paper at a time is summarized.

This book may be of some use to a beginning investigator in the field, in that it provides a list of publications which includes those he will want to read.

HERBERT A. PERKINS, M.D.

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**MEDICAL READINGS ON DRUG ABUSE**—Oliver E. Byrd, Stanford University. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Inc., Reading, Mass. (01867), 1970. 274 pages, \$3.95.

Dr. Byrd's latest book is, in essence, a small library of condensed articles covering a wide spectrum of published papers relating to the abuse and use of dangerous drugs. This indexed work consists of some 180 contributions to current medical literature. It covers subjects ranging from the affects of the drugs per se to reviews of official stands of various medical groups on specific drugs and/or the drug problem in general.

This is not a permissive book; in fact those seeking material to justify improper use of drugs whether tobacco, alcohol, marijuana or barbiturates, opiates or stimulants will be disappointed. Those seeking conservative material pertinent to the current drug abuse scene, however, will find this paperback a welcome addition to their library.

EDWARD R. BLOOMQUIST, M.D.

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**A GUIDE TO DERMATOHISTOPATHOLOGY**—Herman Pinkus, M.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Dermatology and Syphilology, Associate, Department of Pathology, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan; Senior Attending Dermatologist, Detroit General Hospital; Chief, Dermatology Section, Veterans Administration Hospital, Allen Park, Michigan; and Amir H. Mehregan, M.D., Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Dermatology and Syphilology, Associate, Department of Pathology, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan; Senior Associate Dermatologist, Detroit General Hospital. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Division of Meredith Publishing Company, 440 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. (10016), 1969. 546 pages, \$20.00.

The new text *A Guide to Dermatohistopathology* by Pinkus and Mehregan is the first guide to skin pathology that is easily readable. It is a welcome addition to both dermatologist and pathologist due to its clarity of explanation.

Pinkus and Mehregan discuss basic normal anatomy, techniques of pathology and methods of organizing observations under the microscope. These authors then proceed through inflammatory, granulomatous, metabolic, connective tissue, pigmentary diseases and then tumors. Each individual tumor and disease process is discussed simply and with reference to the 403 photomicrographs and charts.

The section on granulomas is divided into predominately mononuclear and mixed cell granulomas, a classification that allows easy categorization. The tumor section is well illustrated and the differences between appendageal tumors are easily seen. Many of the descriptions are delightful to read especially on differentiation of lichen planus and lupus erythematosus and the section on artefacts seen in tissue.

This book is a gem in the wealth of knowledge on the interpretation of pathology of the skin.

LEO INDIANER, M.D.

**TECHNIQUES IN CLINICAL PHYSIOLOGY—A Survey of Measurements in Anesthesiology**—Edited by J. Weldon Bellville, M.D., Professor of Anesthesia, Stanford University School of Medicine; and Charles S. Weaver, Ph.D., Research Engineer, Stanford Electronics Laboratories; Research Associate, Department of Anesthesia, Stanford University School of Medicine. The Macmillan Company, 866 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. (10022), 1969. 532 pages, \$20.00.

With the numerous tools and techniques now available for physiologic measurements, the clinician or researcher may puzzle over which is best for his particular task. Planning to monitor breath-to-breath inspired oxygen concentration in a halothane-oxygen mixture, it would be well to know that monitors using either thermo-conductivity or the fuel cell principle are totally inappropriate. The former is inappropriate because of the slow response time, and the latter because of the halothane induced measuring error.

Bellville and Weaver have edited a book which will help answer this kind of question. The book is diverse in its coverage with contributions from physicians, engineers, mathematicians and chemists. The cohesive bond between the men is that nearly all have worked in or with the Department of Anesthesia at Stanford University. Because of the diversity in the contributors' disciplines, the emphasis found in individual chapters varies. Some have stressed the monitoring of physiologic systems while others emphasized specific tools. Some shied away from mathematics in their presentation while others liberally sprinkled their dissertations with formulas. For me, an anesthesiologist, the chapters relating to cardiac function evaluation, gas and blood gas analysis, and gas chromatography were the most useful. Other readers may equally well appreciate chapters on basic electronics, computers or radioisotope techniques. The authors have added short comments to most of their references enabling the reader to determine, at a glance, whether a particular reference is of value to him. I believe the book contains valuable material, not only for the researcher and clinician, but also for the resident in anesthesia who would like a more in-depth discourse in the tools and techniques of his science.

LEONARD F. WALTERS, M.D.

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**ABORTION: LAW, CHOICE AND MORALITY**—Daniel Callahan. The Macmillan Company, 866 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. (10022), 1970. 524 pages, \$14.95

This is essentially a textbook on the enormous worldwide problem of abortion. It has an extensive bibliography, and supplies a mass of data. Dr. Callahan (Ph.D.) focuses on the moral problems of abortions, integrated with the medical, social and legal questions. He stresses the diversity of values in a pluralistic society, and the influence of personal bias on each individual's attitude. All abortion decisions will be influenced by one's personal morality.

I must agree with Dr. Alan Guttmacher that this book is a must for all concerned with a humane solution of the abortion problem. I hope the California Medical Association will make this available to all of our legislators.

GEORGE K. HERZOG, JR., M.D.